UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/700
1 December 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 63

REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter GOOSEN (South Africa)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) Regional confidence-building measures;

"(b) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

"(c) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme;

"(d) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

"(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean"

was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-ninth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/76 A to E of 16 December 1993.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 13 October 1994, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 53 to 66, 68 to 72 and 153. The deliberations on those items took place at the 3rd to 10th meetings, from 17 to 24 October 1994 (see A/C.1/49/PV.3-10). Structured discussions of specific subjects on the adopted thematic approach took place from 25 to 27 and on 31 October and 1 November. Consideration of draft resolutions on those items took place at the 12th to 16th meetings, on 3, 4, 7 and 9 November (see A/C.1/49/PV.12-16). Action on draft resolutions on those items was taken at the 19th to 25th meetings, from 12 to 18 November (see A/C.1/49/PV.19-25)

4. In connection with item 63, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (A/49/371);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/49/389);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme (A/49/504);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures (A/49/546);

(f) Letter dated 21 February 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/80-S/1994/204);

(g) Letter dated 21 April 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/132);

(h) Letter dated 10 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/155-S/1994/556);

(i) Letter dated 24 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/165-S/1994/616);

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/49/27).

(j) Letter dated 5 September 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Twenty-fifth South Pacific Forum, held at Brisbane, Australia, from 31 July to 2 August 1994 (A/49/381);

(k) Letter dated 25 June 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the texts of the documents adopted by the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cairo from 31 May to 3 June 1994 (A/49/287-S/1994/894 and Corr.1);

(l) Letter dated 17 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 October 1994 (A/49/532-S/1994/1179).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.8

5. On 31 October, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Venezuela submitted a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" (A/C.1/49/L.8), which was later also sponsored by Nepal. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Mexico at the 14th meeting, on 7 November.

6. At its 20th meeting, on 15 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.8 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution A).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.12

7. On 31 October, Algeria, Australia, Benin, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela submitted a draft resolution entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme (A/C.1/49/L.12), which was later also sponsored by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Mongolia, the Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Nigeria at the 15th meeting, on 9 November.

8. At its 20th meeting, on 15 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.12 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution B).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.20 and Rev.1

9. On 1 November, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Zaire submitted a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures" (A/C.1/49/L.20). The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Cameroon at the 14th meeting, on 7 November.

10. On 10 November, the sponsors, joined by Kenya, submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/49/L.20/Rev.1), which contained the following change: the original operative paragraph 7, which read:

> "7. Requests the Secretary-General and interested bodies and third States to assist in the training and preparation of units specializing in peace-keeping in the member countries of the Committee"

was revised to read:

> "7. Requests Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist and to promote the training and preparation of units specializing in peace operations in the member countries of the Committee".

11. At the 20th meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Cameroon orally revised the text of operative paragraph 6 by inserting the words "of the Economic Community of Central African States" after the phrase "States members".

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.20/Rev.1 as orally revised without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution C).

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.26

13. On 2 November, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, the Gambia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group of States, Honduras, Jamaica, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/49/L.26), which was later also sponsored by Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Guatemala, Saint Lucia, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Togo at the 15th meeting, on 9 November.

14. At its 21st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.26 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution D).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.31

15. On 2 November, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Colombia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, the Sudan and Viet Nam submitted a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/49/L.31), which was later also sponsored by Costa Rica and Haiti. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of India at the 14th meeting, on 7 November.

16. At its 22nd meeting, on 17 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/49/L.31 by a recorded vote of 98 to 23, with 31 abstentions (see para. 17, draft resolution E). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Andorra, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, Fiji, Georgia, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Samoa, Slovenia, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

17. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

A

United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched, 2/

Bearing in mind its various resolutions on the subject, including resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992 in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

Having examined the reports of the Secretary-General of 9 September 1994 on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, 3/ and of 2 September 1994 on the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters 4/ as it relates to the implementation of the Disarmament Information Programme, as well as the Final Act of the Twelfth United Nations Pledging Conference for the Programme, held on 28 October 1994, 5/

Noting with appreciation the contributions that Member States have already made to the Programme,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 9 September 1994 on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme; 3/

2. Commends the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible information on arms limitation and disarmament to elected officials, the media,

---

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

3/ A/49/371.

4/ A/49/360.

5/ A/CONF.174/L.2.

non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out an active seminar and conference programme;

3. Notes with appreciation the contributions to the efforts of the Programme by the United Nations information centres and the regional centres for disarmament;

4. Recommends that the Programme should further focus its efforts:

(a) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of and support for multilateral action, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner;

(b) To facilitate unimpeded access to and an exchange of information on ideas between the public sector and public interest groups and organizations, and to provide an independent source of balanced and factual information that takes into account a range of views to help further an informed debate on arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(c) To organize meetings to facilitate exchanges of views and information between governmental and non-governmental sectors and between governmental and other experts in order to facilitate the search for common ground;

5. Invites all Member States to contribute to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

6. Commends the Secretary-General for supporting the efforts of universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the educational field in widening the worldwide availability of disarmament education, and invites him to continue to support and cooperate, without cost to the regular budget of the United Nations, with educational institutions and non-governmental organizations engaged in such efforts;

7. Decides that at its fiftieth session there should be a thirteenth United Nations Pledging Conference for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and expresses the hope that on that occasion all those Member States which have not yet announced any voluntary contributions will do so, bearing in mind the objectives of the Third Disarmament Decade 6/ and the need to ensure its success;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

6/ See resolution 45/62 A, annex.

B

United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, 7/

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 8/ the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, 9/ the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has already trained an appreciable number of public officials selected from geographical regions represented in the United Nations system, most of whom are now in positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament affairs in their respective countries or Governments,

Recalling its resolutions 37/100 G of 13 December 1982, 38/73 C of 15 December 1983, 39/63 B of 12 December 1984, 40/151 H of 16 December 1985, 41/60 H of 3 December 1986, 42/39 I of 30 November 1987, 43/76 F of 7 December 1988, 44/117 E of 15 December 1989, 45/59 A of 4 December 1990, 46/37 E of 6 December 1991, 47/53 A of 9 December 1992 and 48/76 C of 16 December 1993,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme, as designed, has enabled an increased number of public officials, particularly from the developing countries, to acquire more expertise in the sphere of disarmament,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, particularly to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. Reaffirms its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly and the report of the Secretary-General 10/ approved by resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

7/ A/49/504.

8/ Resolution S-10/2.

9/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes, agenda items 9 to 13, document A/S-12/32.

10/ A/33/305.

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Finland, France, Germany, Japan and Sweden for inviting the 1994 fellows to study selected activities in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. Notes with satisfaction that, within the framework of the programme, the Centre for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat organizes regional disarmament workshops for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. Commends the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

C

Regional confidence-building measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Recalling also its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992 and 48/76 A of 16 December 1993,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, in that they can contribute to regional disarmament and to international security, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the

purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, 11/ which deals chiefly with the meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held at Yaoundé in April and September 1994;

2. Reaffirms its support for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful settlement of disputes in Central Africa;

3. Also reaffirms its support for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. Notes the readiness of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to reduce the military forces, equipment and budgets in the subregion and to continue reviewing the studies carried out on the subject with a view to reaching agreements to that end;

5. Welcomes with satisfaction the initialling of the Non-Aggression Pact between the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States, which is likely to contribute to the prevention of conflicts and to confidence-building in the subregion, and encourages those States to sign the Pact as soon as possible;

6. Also welcomes with satisfaction the decision taken by the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to participate in peace-keeping operations of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and, to that end, to establish units specializing in peace-keeping operations within their respective armed forces;

7. Requests Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist and to promote the training and preparation of units specializing in peace operations in the member countries of the Committee;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the Central African States in implementing the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures".

11/ A/49/546.

D

United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 G of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia, and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, 45/59 E of 4 December 1990 and 46/37 F of 9 December 1991 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling its resolution 48/76 E of 16 December 1993 on the regional disarmament centres,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Bearing in mind that the changed international environment has created new opportunities for the pursuit of disarmament, as well as posed new challenges,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the regional centres, 12/

Convinced that the initiatives and activities mutually agreed upon by Member States of the respective regions aimed at fostering mutual confidence and security, as well as the implementation and coordination of regional activities under the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, would encourage and facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament in these regions,

Welcoming the programme of activities carried out by the regional centres, which have contributed substantially to understanding and cooperation among the

---

12/ A/49/389.

States in each particular region and have thereby strengthened the role assigned to each regional centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Recognizing the need to provide the centres with financial viability and stability so as to facilitate the effective planning and implementation of their respective programmes of activities,

Expressing its gratitude to the Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have contributed to the trust funds of the three regional centres,

1. Commends the activities being carried out by the regional centres in identifying and broadening the understanding of pressing disarmament and security issues and exploring optimum solutions under given specific conditions prevailing in each region, in accordance with their mandates;

2. Encourages the regional centres to continue intensifying their efforts in promoting cooperation with subregional and regional organizations and among the States in their respective regions to facilitate the development of effective measures of confidence-building, arms limitation and disarmament, with a view to strengthening peace and security;

3. Also encourages further use of the potential of the regional centres to maintain the increased interest in and momentum for revitalization of the Organization to meet the challenges of a new phase of international relations in order to fulfil the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations related to peace, disarmament and development, taking into account the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security as adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session; 13/

4. Appeals once again to Member States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes of activities of the regional centres and their effective implementation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the directors of the regional centres are locally based in order to revitalize the activities of the centres;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of resolution 46/37 F and of the present resolution;

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42), annex II.

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

E

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Convinced also that a multilateral agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would strengthen international security and contribute to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Weapons, signed at Moscow on 3 January 1993, aimed at reducing the strategic arsenals to an aggregate level not to exceed 3,500 deployed strategic warheads for each side no later than the year 2003,

Conscious that the recent steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 8/ it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Stressing that an international convention would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1994 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject,

1. Reiterates its request to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations, as a matter of priority, in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, taking as a possible basis the draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons annexed to the present resolution;

2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

ANNEX

Draft Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The States Parties to this Convention,

Alarmed by the threat to the very survival of mankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,

Convinced that any use of nuclear weapons constitutes a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity,

Convinced also that this Convention would be a step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons leading to general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Determined to continue negotiations for the achievement of this goal,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The States Parties to this Convention solemnly undertake not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

Article 2

The Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

Article 3

1. This Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State that does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may accede to it at any time.

2. This Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. This Convention shall enter into force on the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty-five Governments, including the Governments of the five nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

4. For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited after the entry into force of the Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

5. The depositary shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession and the date of the entry into force of this Convention, as well as of the receipt of other notices.

6. This Convention shall be registered by the depositary in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 4

This Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send duly certified copies thereof to the Government of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, opened for signature at _____ on the _____ day of the _____ one thousand nine hundred and _____.